

Landscaping Costs Rate As Capital Improvement

This column of questions and answers on federal tax matters is provided by the local office of the U.S. Internal Revenue Service and is published as a public service to taxpayers. The column answers questions most frequently asked by taxpayers.

I planted some flowering shrubs around my house this spring. Can I treat this landscaping cost as capital invest-

ment for tax purposes? 66 Yes, expenditures for landscaping can be added to the cost of your property. However, this would not include normal maintenance and care of the shrubs and lawn.

My daughter opened her first bank account and was asked for her social security number. How can she get one; she's only 13?

A person can obtain a social security number regardless

of age by filling out Form SS-5 available at local Social Security or IRS offices. Banks and other savings institutions are required by law to identify annual interest payments of \$10 or more by the social security number of the recipient.

I filed my return in April. What could be holding up my refund?

Many returns are delayed beyond the usual 5 to 6 week

processing period because the returns were incomplete or contained errors. Missing or inaccurate Social Security numbers, missing signatures, missing W-2 statements and other required supporting documents were common causes for delays.

If the refund doesn't come within 10 weeks from the time you filed, write the regional service center. Give your name, social security number and the date you

filed to help them trace it.

I'm making a gift of stock to my grandchildren. Will I have to pay a gift tax or will they?

Federal gift tax is imposed on the giver not the receiver. This section of the law does not apply unless a gift of more than \$3,000 (\$6,000 if your wife joins in making the gift) is made to any one person during a calendar year. Even then each giver has a

\$30,000 lifetime exemption to use up before the gift tax applies.

Somehow I mislaid my supply of tax deposit forms. How do I go about getting more?

Write to your regional service center and give your business name, address and employer identification number. In your letter indicate the type of tax, the tax period and the number of federal tax deposit forms you need.



A HAT FOR HAHN... Susie Schultz, "Miss Firecracker," presents Los Angeles County Supervisor Kenneth Hahn with a 4th of July hat to remind him of the Fireworks Spectacular scheduled for Independence day at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum. In the foreground is Captain Norman Lyon, ways and means chairman for the event, sponsored by the Los Angeles American Legion. Hahn is chairman of the Military and Veterans Affairs Committee for the county.

4th of JULY DISCOUNTS!



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USC Student Wins Gas Company Grant

Allan E. Gatzke, a fourth-year architectural student at the University of Southern California, has been named 1968 winner of the F. S. Wade Architectural Scholarship, sponsored by Southern California and Southern Counties Gas Companies. Selected by the USC Architectural Scholarship Committee, Gatzke, 22, received a \$1,500 grant to further his education. Making the presentation were P. R. Shea, general sales manager of Southern California Gas Co., and R. M. McIntyre, general sales manager of Southern Counties Gas Co.

Est. established in 1958, the F. S. Wade Scholarship is named in honor of Franklin S. Wade, former president of both gas utilities. Prior to his death in 1967, Wade was active in Los Angeles civic affairs for many years and was a lifetime member of the USC Board of Trustees.

THE SCHOLARSHIP committee consisted of Donald Gibbs AIA Long Beach; Thomas P. Black, AIA, Palos Verdes Peninsula; and Roger Crossman, Southern California Gas Co. The grant is awarded to an incoming architectural student or to a student currently enrolled at USC. Selection is based on academic standing and financial need. Gatzke carried a 3.6 grade point average. A member of Tau Sigma Delta honorary architectural fraternity, Gatzke resides in San Gabriel.

New Books Donated to 26 Schools

Better Foods, Inc., has contributed a copy of the Columbia Encyclopedia to each of 26 elementary, junior high, and high schools in south Los Angeles. Lee Cirmi, vice president of Better Foods, Inc., which has several supermarkets in south Los Angeles, made the presentation of books to student body representatives and school principals in ceremony in the boys' gym at Manual Arts High School. Cirmi, representing the market chain, presented the books to the students for their school libraries with a "hope that what little we offer today will encourage other businessmen so the whole community will profit."

The books were presented as part of the "Salute to Knowledge" promotion of Columbia Encyclopedia at food stores and super markets throughout the Los Angeles area.

Jobless Payments Decrease

SACRAMENTO—Unemployment insurance benefit payments in California showed more than a \$9 million decrease for May of 1968 as compared to the same month this year, Peter Weinberger, director of the state department of employment announced today. The May 1968 payments totaled \$36,756,836 compared with \$45,861,045 a year ago, the figures show. Payments on claims filed in the Torrance office for May of this year totaled \$648,101, compared to \$576,171 for May of 1967.

In all U.S. wars, one out of 38 participants died in service.

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